

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

At page 1, starting at line 19, please delete the current paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0004] Most document production is achieved without using any kind of structure or automation. In order to improve the efficiency of the document production process varying degrees of automation are available. Current electronic typesetting and document layout and publishing systems for printing and/or electronic publishing offer automation features that ~~utilise~~ utilize different types of data to produce a completed work. The content is generally produced separately from the design or stylistic content which gives the finished work a particular appearance. This appearance may be common to a group of works across a series, lending the series a consistent format that is often designed to appeal to potential purchasers.

At page 6, starting at line 3, please delete the current paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0019] Some document automation systems ~~utilise~~ utilize software that augments the function of page layout applications such as QuarkXPress, Adobe PageMaker, or Adobe InDesign to allow them to function as database publishing systems. These systems are limited to highly structured data and have limited ability to deal with any variability in data length or appearance.

At page 20, starting at line 24, please delete the current paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0074] When the design data set 130 is created before the content data set 110 there can be a flow of information from the Designer application to the content creation application shown by the arrow linking blocks 100 and 120. The information passed between them may include details of the defined paragraph styles and page-view element formats such as the paragraphs or other information that needs to be included in a particular element such as a sidebar, table or figure. In this way, the content creator or editor of the content data set 110 is able to indicate that certain paragraphs in the text are to be treated in a particular way. However, he or she does not need to be aware of the overall style of the finished work, merely that he or she wishes a certain block of text to be placed in a sidebar, for instance. In the case where a design data set is not

created before the content data set, the content creator may ~~utilise~~ utilize a DTD or schema to provide the structural information related to their content. We refer to this as upstream structural flow. Content does not need to be created using this process, but it offers certain benefits specific to the invention.

At page 30, starting at line 15, please delete the current paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

[00103] The effect of the dependencies is that if the position of any single component shifts, then the position of any component which depends on the altered position, either directly or indirectly, is also altered automatically according to the defined relationships. Although not illustrated, spatial dependencies may also be defined to apply on a horizontal level so that widths or left/right positions from one frame become the basis of another in the same manner that the heights and vertical positions can be made dependent. Using this method the design of an element can be automatically adjusted to suit the content. In the case where a number of different designs are provided for the same element it is further possible to trigger the automatic progression from one design of that element to another when a specified parameter is exceeded such as a frame height within one of the related element designs exceeding a certain limit. This will allow the content to be formatted according to the alternative element design. For example, the text of an element that in the first instance would usually occupy just one column across a two-column page design may be retargeted at an element that ~~utilises~~ utilizes a two-column design if the text causes a frame to exceed a certain extent such as, for example, the vertical height of the page's primary text frame.

At page 43, starting at line 1, please delete the current paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

[00133] The second iteration attempts to place the first five elements according to the first rule, and the sixth element according to the second rule. Again, this layout is scored and stored. The third iteration attempts to place the first five elements according to the first rule, and the sixth element according to the third rule. The position of element anchors may move during the layout process due to the impact of placed elements in relation to the body text. The latest positional information and the effects a layout has on the body text flow are utilised by the layout engine each time an element is placed on the page. This allows the layout rules to adapt to the latest instance of a page composition as the page is composed. In some instances elements that were initially included in the potential layouts may be dropped from the page design by the engine due to the

conditions of their original inclusion no longer being valid. Once the layout has been completed for every valid element the layout is scored and stored.

At page 52, starting at line 19, please delete the current paragraph and replace it with the following paragraph:

[00169] The foregoing detailed description of the invention has been presented for purposes of illustration and description. It is not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the invention to the precise form disclosed. Many modifications and variations are possible in light of the above teaching. The described embodiments were chosen in order to best explain the principles of the invention and its practical application to thereby enable others skilled in the art to best ~~utilise~~ utilize the invention in various embodiments and with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated. It is intended that the scope of the invention be defined by the claims appended hereto.